

IOWA
GOLD
STAR
MILITARY
MUSEUM



The Iowa Gold Star Military Museum's mission is to honor and depict the military experience of Iowa citizens in all wars, homeland defense and Iowa service. The museum's purpose is to collect, preserve and exhibit materials that illustrate the story of Iowa's military past from statehood to the present. The Iowa Gold Star Military Museum honors the heroic service of all Iowa veterans.

The blue and gold star banner tradition began in WW I when white Service Flags bordered in red were displayed in homes, businesses, schools and churches to indicate, by the use of a blue star, each active service member in the United States Military. A gold star indicated those who had given their lives for their country.

This tradition has continued through WW II, Korea, Vietnam and into the present day. The Iowa Gold Star Military Museum honors and remembers all Iowans who have given the ultimate sacrifice so we may live within the bounds of freedom.





IOWA GOLD STAR MILITARY MUSEUM

ENTRANCE

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Thank you for taking the time to learn more about the Iowa Gold Star Military Museum. The goal of the museum is to honor, commemorate, and pay tribute to the dedication of Iowa's fighting men and women of all backgrounds as they performed their duties and sacrificed without the expectation of any reward except to improve the lives of generations to come.

Each veteran has a story. The gallery and accompanying collections bring to life these stories of service and sacrifice in a lively and chronological order. The displays provide context to the lessons of history books and through these objects, the people who touched them and used them in battle live on, their stories told and not forgotten.

The museum is owned and operated by the State of Iowa who made a significant investment of more than \$4 million in 2007 to build the gallery. Phase II of this effort will provide for the construction of exhibits highlighting Iowans and their service. Visitors will be able to participate in a truly interactive experience, deepening their understanding of the realities our soldiers faced and how those daily realities contributed to our global history.

On behalf of all branches of military service, thank you for taking time to consider how the world we live in today has been forever changed as a result of the service of Iowans. We appreciate your support of this effort and look forward to sharing the next steps in our shared mission with you.

Sincerely,

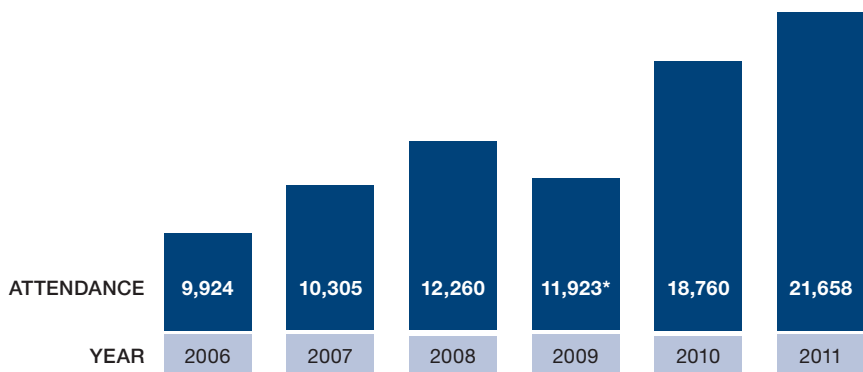


COL Benjamin J. Corell
Commander, 2/34th Infantry Brigade Combat Team
Camp Dodge Joint Maneuver Training Center-OIC

Since before statehood, those living in what is now Iowa have served their country valiantly. In nearly every military action men and women of unending variety have left the farm, factory, desk and work truck to serve their state, their nation and the world. The Iowa Gold Star Military Museum tells their stories. Through interactive displays, through the involvement of more than 70 volunteer veterans, through documents, weapons, vehicles and uniforms, the daily activities of soldiers, airmen, sailors and corpsmen are retold to successive generations.

The primary mission of the museum is education about the contributions, courage, service and bravery of Iowans who have worn the uniform. While the current gallery has many displays, the further development of interactive exhibits, offering of curriculum for school-age students and the capturing of more first-hand accounts of military service will serve to increase the knowledge, respect and pride Iowans have in our military past.





*during construction



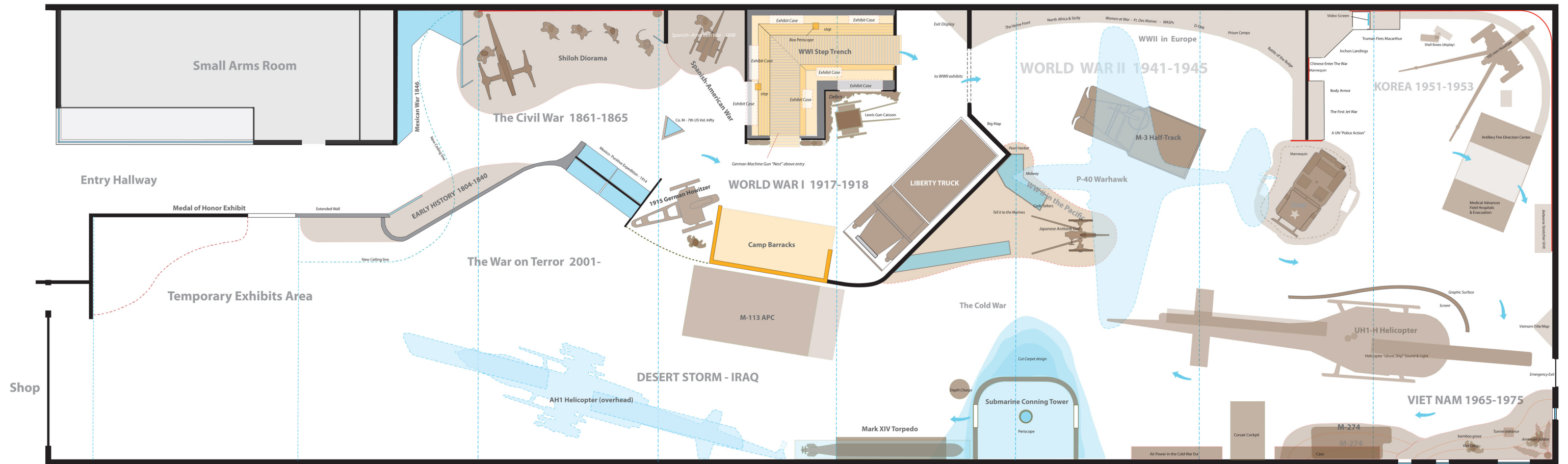
The Iowa Gold Star Military Museum, originally located on the first floor of the Camp Dodge Memorial Building, was established in June 1985 under the direction of Colonel Al Rolfes. Collecting historical artifacts, documents and photographs from numerous locations, Colonel Rolfes and a cadre of volunteers assembled exhibits to tell the story of the Iowa National Guard and later added displays to include all branches of the military.

By 1994 the museum collection had expanded and the exhibits were relocated to the old headquarters building. Full-time staff was added and the exhibits and archives continued to expand. In 2008, with financial assistance from the State of Iowa, a \$4 million, 18,000 square foot addition was constructed. The current museum opened in October 2009 and the installation of interpretive, interactive exhibits has been ongoing.

The Iowa Gold Star Military Museum is owned and operated by the Iowa Department of Public Defense. Museum staff includes two full-time employees (Museum Director and Curator) and two part-time employees. More than 70 volunteers give generously of their time and indispensable experience as they often provide tours with first-hand accounts of military service. The entire operations budget of the museum is funded by the State of Iowa.

Additional programming and project support is provided by the Iowa National Guard Memorial Association. Past fundraising for programs and capital improvements has been limited.





EARLY HISTORY, CIVIL WAR, SPANISH AMERICAN WAR (1804-1917)

Exploration and Settlement (1804-1853)
Exhibits will focus on the emergence of a true national identity in the American Military and show how it has performed duties other than warfare since inception. Gear and uniforms adapted from British armies and used in surveying, exploring, building alliances and setting the stage for statehood will be included.

CIVIL WAR (1861-1865)

Iowa's proudest moment of the Civil War came early, at the infamous Battle of Shiloh. A full-size diorama will show a line of Iowa troops defending their position amidst a hail of fire along a fence-line at the road's edge next to the replica 12-lb. Parrott Rifled Cannon. Audio exhibits and ancillary displays will complete the story of Iowans in the fight among states.

SPANISH AMERICAN WAR & BEYOND (1898-1917)

The emergence of repeating arms and African-American troops are essential elements of this interactive display which includes large photomurals, uniforms, small arms and an M1883 Colt Gatling gun originally issued to the Navy. The story of the Rough Riders and Company M of 7th US Volunteer Infantry, an African-American company organized in Des Moines are highlighted in accompanying kiosks.

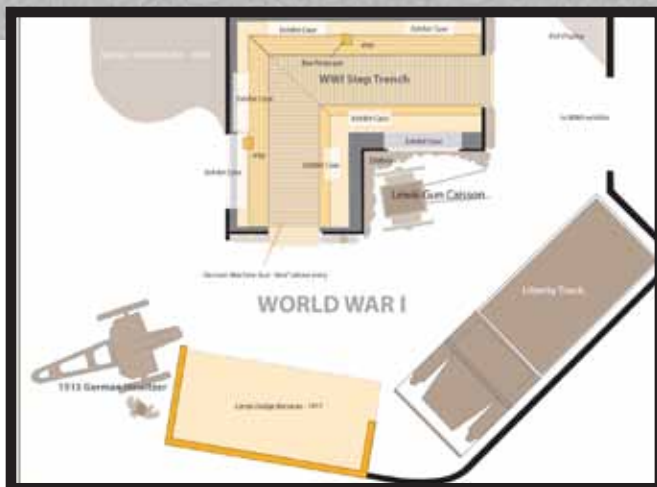


WORLD WAR I (1917-1918)

When America entered the “Great War” in 1917, Iowa sent infantry soldiers to serve as part of the American Expeditionary Forces. One of the first AEF divisions to reach France was the 42nd (Rainbow) Division which included many Iowa soldiers from the 168th Infantry Regiment. Many other Iowa Guardsmen, most notably those serving in the 34th Division, saw overseas duty. By war’s end, the 168th suffered over 700 killed and 3,100 wounded in combat.

Features of the World War I exhibit include:

- An urban street in a shelled French village with artifacts and signage
- A WWI Step-Trench Night Attack display, a sound-and-light experience
- A German 105-mm Howitzer and a Maxim Machine Gun “nest”
- A WWI 1918 Liberty Truck and complete Vickers Machine Gun Caisson
- A reproduction Camp Dodge barracks, circa 1918, with associated exhibits
- Clothing and uniform accoutrements from the period

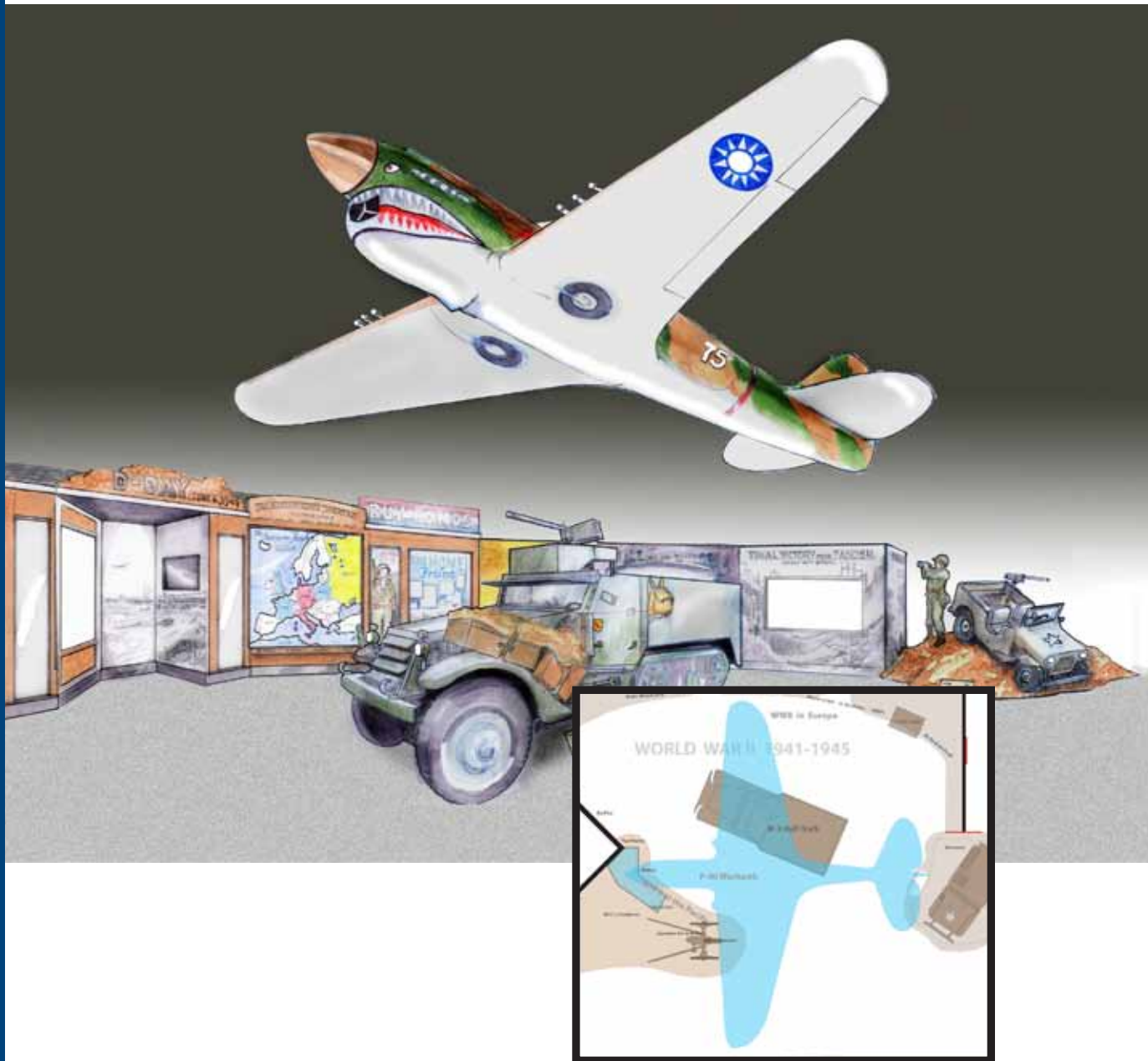


WORLD WAR II (1941-1945) EUROPEAN THEATER

The 113th Cavalry Group was mobilized for World War II in February 1941. It was part of the Normandy invasion and became the “eyes and ears” of the 19th U.S. Army Corps as it raced across Europe. They were the spearhead unit in the liberation of Northern France, Belgium and Holland. More than 226,000 Iowans served in WWII.

The European Theater exhibits will not only show the visitor the vast physical scope of the war, but will also bring a more intimate picture of the struggles faced at home and abroad by those serving and their families. Central to the set is a large animated map of the theater allowing visitors to visualize the alliances formed, key battles and the maneuvering of American forces throughout the war.

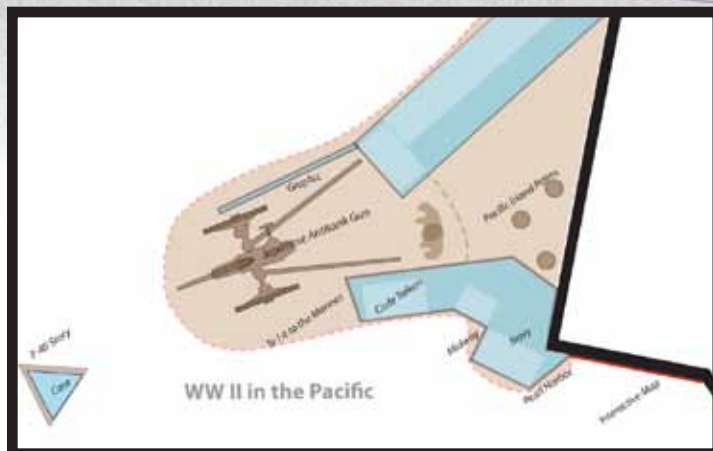
Other primary exhibits include a full-scale replica of the Curtiss P-40 Warhawk, the M-3 Half-Track personnel carrier, video alcoves, a display on women at war including WASPS, WAACS, WAVES, Women Marines and Ft. Des Moines, prison camps and the role of Camp Dodge in preparing soldiers.



WORLD WAR II (1941-1945) PACIFIC THEATER

The stories of what Iowans faced in the Pacific Theater will be told in a sequence of exhibits beginning with the bombing of Pearl Harbor in December 1941. A large interactive map of the Pacific will provide a timeline of the actions and movement of the campaign across a vast ocean. It will include interactive components allowing visitors to marvel at how these great battles in small places were so significant. Iowans served in many capacities and in some of the most important moments of the war including the first and last battles and as Meskwaki code-talkers.

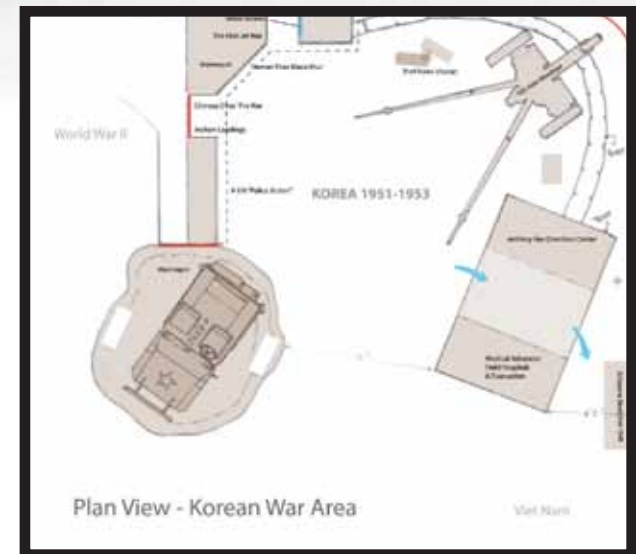
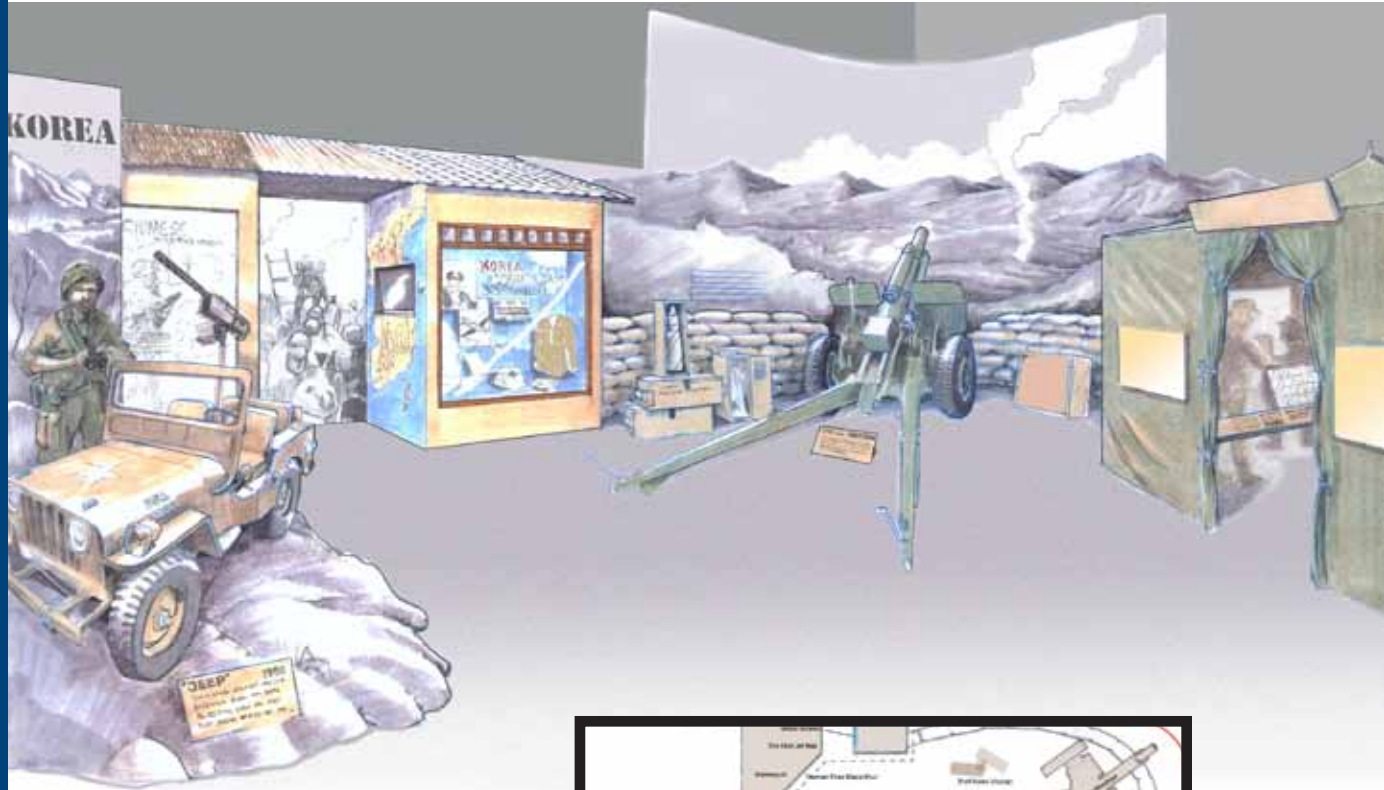
Displays will include biographical information about veterans, uniforms and small arms, Japanese military equipment, information about the unique challenges of Naval and South Pacific warfare and the roles Iowans served up through the surrender of the Japanese on-board the battleship Missouri in 1945.



KOREAN WAR (1950-1953)

The Korean Conflict has been referred to as America's Forgotten War, the "police action" between World War II and Vietnam. Fighting in barren, cold and mountainous climates, American troops faced tremendous odds and suffered nearly 45,000 killed or missing in action.

Iowans have served valiantly in Korea continuously since 1950 and today more than 30,000 American troops still defend the DMZ created through an armistice signed in 1953. The gallery will begin at the conclusion of WWII and includes the dependable Jeep, include details on the daring Inchon Landing, clothing and winter warfare elements, advances in medicine and jet aircraft, video footage of veterans, and a 105-mm Howitzer.





VIETNAM WAR (1960-1973)

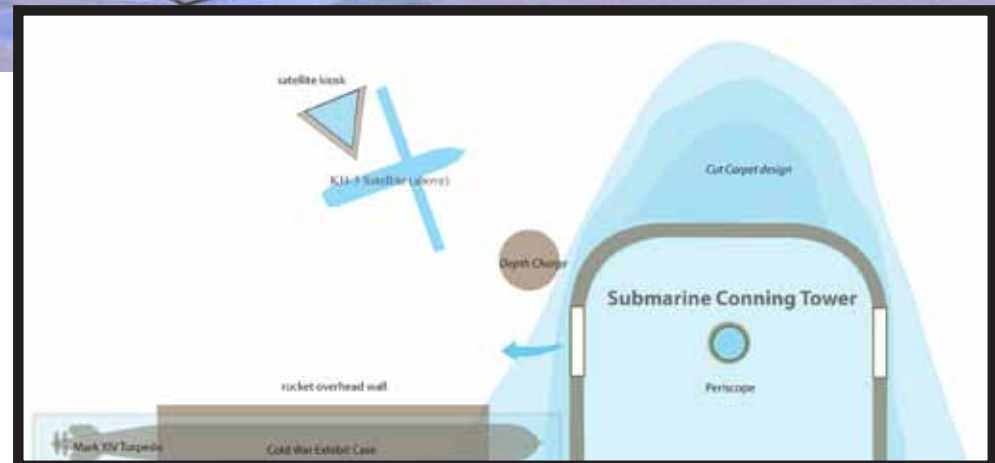
While Vietnam remains one of the most controversial events in our nation's history, the reality of a conflict dating back nearly 25 years to the Korean War is found in the loss of more than 58,000 American lives including more than 800 Iowans.

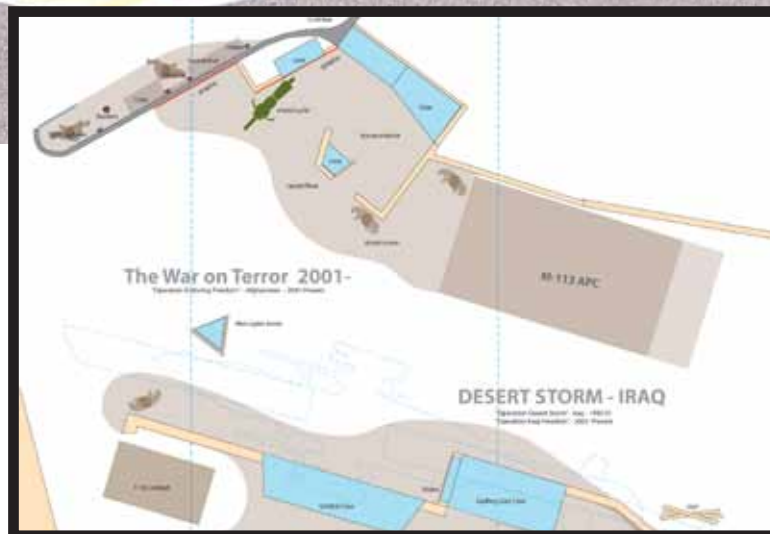
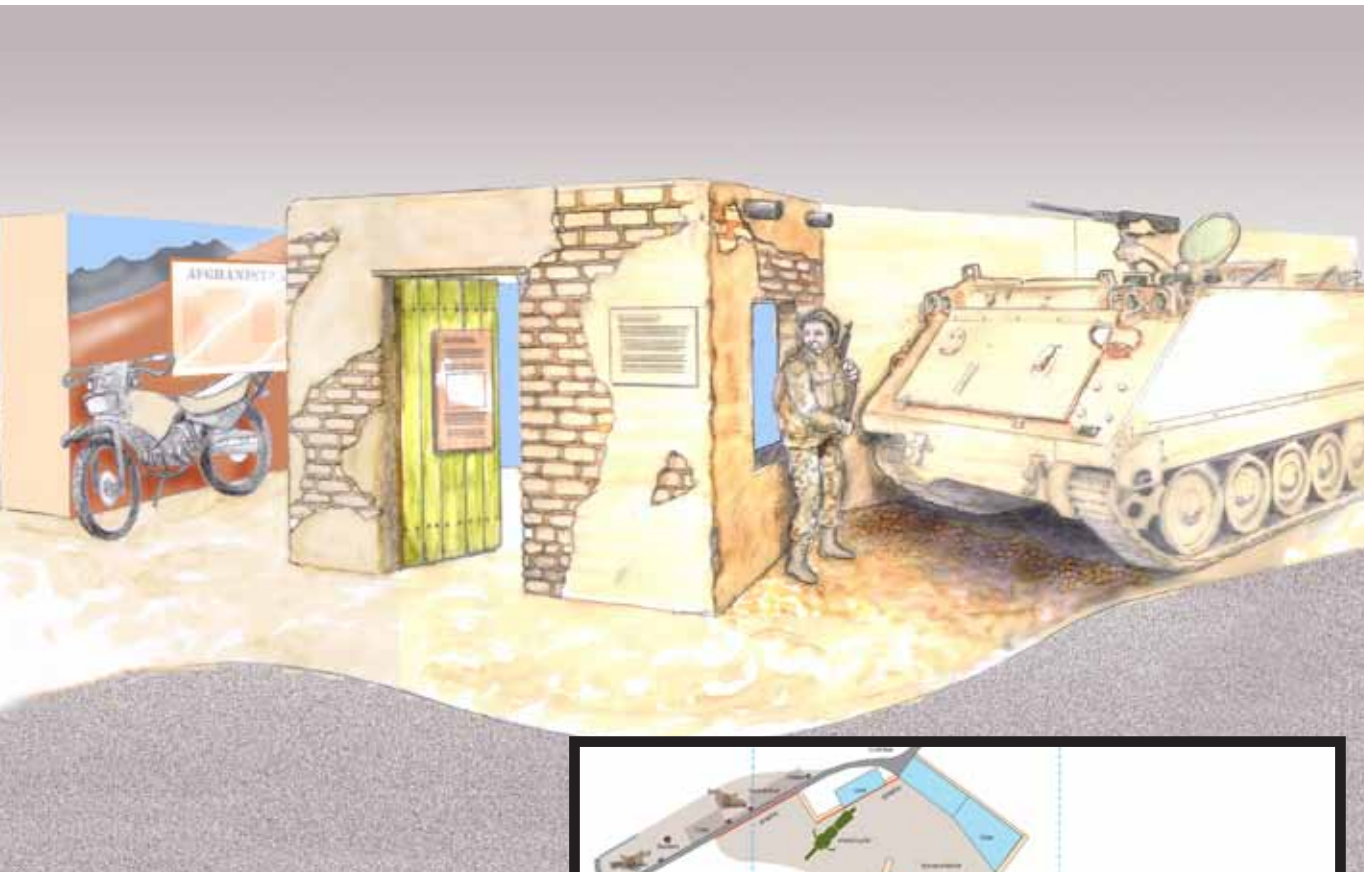
The museum holdings in Vietnam-era materials are diverse and the new gallery will provide fitting recognition of these items ranging across every branch of service. From Air Cavalry units to Medical Evacuation, the UH-1 "Huey" Helicopter was an icon of the Vietnam War. A full-size display of the Huey and the various missions it served is the centerpiece of the display. A cockpit trainer for the A-7D Corsair, the M-274 Mule, a light-weight ATV, and highlights of Iowans service are included.

THE COLD WAR (1946-1994)

In the aftermath of WWII, a great realignment of world power was inevitable with the United States emerging as the first-rank power rivaled only by the Soviet Union. During the Cold War, captured German technology was used by both sides to develop intercontinental ballistic missiles, jet aircraft, satellite technology and rocketry. Iowans served critical roles in the assembly of ammunition and the development of nuclear weapons components.

Military intelligence became extremely important and Iowans were key to the edge America hoped to sustain over the Russians. The Cold War gallery includes a replica of a late-60's era Sturgeon-class nuclear submarine complete with a periscope extending through the building roof. Adjacent exhibits describe the arrival of nuclear power and missile technology, the Mark XIV torpedo and the role of scientists at the University of Iowa and Iowa State University in development of the computer and satellite technology and the emergence of Collins Radio of Cedar Rapids (now Rockwell-Collins) as a major supplier of electronic technologies to the military.





DESERT STORM TO THE WAR ON TERROR (1990-PRESENT)

Scores of Iowans have fought tyranny in Iraq, Kuwait, Afghanistan and throughout the world as America has led the charge during the past 20 years to bring to justice brutal dictators and terrorists alike. Every single county in the state has contributed some of their best and brightest in support of this ongoing mission.

The exhibit area recognizing the contributions of Iowans will be geographically divided and move from west to east beginning in the Persian Gulf with the invasion of Kuwait in 1990 and continuing with displays about the men and women who have given their lives in support of the mission to seek out and destroy threats to Americans as the visitor moves east to Afghanistan.

Iconic images such as burning oil rigs, signage, uniforms, weapons, vehicles and a cockpit simulator of a F-16 Falcon fighter jet will offer visitors interactive displays and the chance to meet the men and women fighting today for the freedom to live and work in a great and free nation.

TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$6.7 MILLION

PHASE I

\$4 MILLION
60% (FINANCED BY STATE OF IOWA)
18,000 SQUARE FOOT GALLERY

\$18 MILLION
ARTIFACTS CURRENTLY ON DISPLAY

PHASE II

\$2.7 MILLION
40% (FINANCED BY PRIVATE DONATIONS)
GALLERY DISPLAYS

- MEDAL OF HONOR: WELCOME CENTER
- SMALL ARMS ROOM/GALLERY ENTRY
- EARLY HISTORY
- MEXICAN WAR
- CIVIL WAR
- SPANISH AMERICAN WAR
- WORLD WAR I
- WORLD WAR II
- KOREAN WAR
- VIETNAM WAR
- COLD WAR
- GULF WAR/WAR ON TERROR
- MEMORIAL GARDEN
- LIGHTING
- DESIGN
- GALLERY ENDOWMENT (\$500,000)

SCALE OF GIVING

1	\$500,000	\$500,000	named giving opportunity
2	\$250,000	\$500,000	named giving opportunity
6	\$100,000	\$600,000	named giving opportunity
8	\$50,000	\$400,000	named giving opportunity
12	\$25,000	\$300,000	
25	\$10,000	\$250,000	
many	\$5,000 & below	\$150,000	
TOTAL \$2.2 MILLION			

Planned & Deferred gifts present an opportunity to leave a lasting legacy through this project. Should this project move forward, both pledges and one-time gifts would be solicited.

